



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0523**

August 26, 2013

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing to ask you to join me in supporting the Indian Wells Valley (IWV) Inyokern Airport to be selected as a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) test site for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). This region of California has long been an innovator for new aerospace technologies and locating a UAS test site in Ridgecrest will continue this legacy for our state.

IWV Inyokern is a great candidate for a test site because it is located in the high desert of southern California where privacy will not be a concern due to low encroachment, and it is within a 75-mile radius of a majority of the country's unmanned systems work. The airspace complex IWV Inyokern operates within is one of the largest areas of restricted airspace in the country and located right here in California. IWV Inyokern has facilitated UAS operations and already possesses most of the infrastructure required to host an FAA test site.

There is a heavy academic presence near IWV Inyokern. Many colleges have Educational Partnering Agreements with the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake and are involved with UAS test and development at this military installation. There are many other academic institutions in California that do research on UAS integration and technology, such as UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, and the University of Southern California, which could be leveraged for testing if Inyokern is selected as a UAS test site.

The current assets and potential of IWV Inyokern, including its infrastructure, airspace, location, and UAS research, test and development, make it ideal to be one of the six FAA UAS test sites. More importantly, selecting IWV Inyokern as an FAA site ensures the creation of more much-needed high-tech jobs for California, along with new manufacturing opportunities, and building upon the expertise of the people already located in the community.

Accordingly, I would like to invite you to join me in supporting IWV Inyokern Airport's application to become an FAA UAS site, and to visit Ridgecrest at your earliest

convenience to tour IWV Inyokern Airport and meet with me and community leaders to discuss the importance of this issue in our community and to California. Please contact me should you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "K" and a stylized "M" and "C".

KEVIN McCARTHY  
Member of Congress